
By: Delegate McHale

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 1997

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Uniform Laboratory Referral Form - Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that certain laboratories accept a certain
4 uniform laboratory referral form as the sole instrument for referrals for laboratory
5 services; repealing the requirement that physicians must use a certain uniform
6 laboratory referral form; repealing the requirement that the Insurance
7 Commissioner adopt by regulation a certain uniform laboratory referral form;
8 repealing the requirement that the Insurance Commissioner consult with certain
9 persons when developing the uniform laboratory referral form; and generally
10 relating to the uniform laboratory referral form.

11 BY repealing

12 Article - Health - General
13 Section 17-215.1
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

16 BY repealing

17 Article - Health Occupations
18 Section 14-509
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article - Insurance
23 Section 15-120
24 Annotated Code of Maryland

2
1 (1995 Volume and 1996 Supplement)
2 (As enacted by Chapter _____ (H.B. 11) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
4 Chapter 577 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995
5 Section 2

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article - Health - General**

9 [17-215.1.

10 (a) A laboratory that requires a health care provider to submit a written referral
11 to receive laboratory services shall accept the uniform laboratory referral form adopted
12 by the Insurance Commissioner under Article 48A, § 490BB of the Code as the sole
13 instrument for referrals for laboratory services.

14 (b) A laboratory may not impose any requirement to:

15 (1) Modify the uniform laboratory referral form; or

16 (2) Submit additional laboratory referral forms.]

17 **Article - Health Occupations**

18 [14-509.

19 A physician shall use the uniform laboratory referral form adopted by the Insurance
20 Commissioner under Article 48A, § 490BB of the Code.]

21 **Article - Insurance**

22 15-120.

23 (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner shall adopt by
24 regulation[:

25 (1) a uniform laboratory referral form for use by insurers, nonprofit health
26 service plans, and health maintenance organizations that require insureds or subscribers
27 to have a written referral to receive laboratory services; and

28 (2) a uniform consultation referral form for use by insurers, nonprofit health
29 service plans, and health maintenance organizations that require insureds or subscribers
30 to have a written referral to receive consultation services.

31 (b) The Commissioner may waive the requirements of regulations adopted under
32 subsection (a) of this section for the use of [uniform laboratory referral forms and]
33 uniform consultation referral forms for an entity that uses the forms solely for internal
34 purposes.

1 **Chapter 577 of the Acts of 1995**

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Insurance
3 Commissioner, when developing the[,] uniform provider voucher form [the uniform
4 laboratory referral form,] and the uniform consultation referral form under Article 48A,
5 § 490BB of the Code, shall consult with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene,
6 the Health Care Access and Cost Commission, the Office on Aging, Blue Cross and Blue
7 Shield of Maryland, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of the National Capital Area, the Health
8 Insurance Association of America, the League of Life and Health Insurers, the Maryland
9 Hospital Association, the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, the Medical
10 Group Management Association, a representative of the medical laboratory industry in
11 the State, the Maryland Association of Health Maintenance Organizations, and a
12 nonphysician health care provider association. The forms developed under this section
13 shall be capable of electronic transfer.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 1997.